Appl. No.: 09/966,538
Amdt. Dated May 10, 2005
Response to Office Action of February 10, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 29 with the following paragraph:

U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/198,090 now U.S. Pat. No. 6,412,000, in the name of Guy Riddle and Robert L. Packer, entitled "Method for Automatically Classifying Traffic in a Packet Communications Network.".

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 11 with the following paragraph:

A traffic class is a logical grouping of data flows that share the same characteristic or set of characteristics—e.g., a specific application, protocol, IP address, MAC address, port, etc. In one embodiment, each traffic class has at least one matching rule defining the criteria used for identifying a specific traffic type. Data flow rate control device 30, in one embodiment, monitors network traffic passing through access link 21 and applies matching rules to identify a traffic class associated with each data flow. In one embodiment, data flow rate control device 30 includes functionality allowing for classification of network traffic based on information from layers 2 to 7 of the OSI reference model. Data flow rate control device 30 allows an administrator to manually create a traffic class by specifying a set of matching rules and also automatically creates traffic classes by monitoring network traffic across access link 21 and classifying data flows according to a unique set of matching rules for each traffic class. Automatic traffic classification is disclosed in application serial no. 09/198,090, now U.S. Patent No. 6,412,000, which is incorporated herein by reference.